

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the specification for informalities. Claims 11, 12, 18, 19, 22, 22 and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Fujita et al. in U.S. Patent No. 6,241,106. Further, claims 19, 20, 22-24 and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Devening in U.S. Patent No. 4,941,578. Claims 17 and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujita et al. in U.S. Patent No. 6,241,106. Claims 17 and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Devening in U.S. Patent No. 4,941,578. Claim 16 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fujita et al. in U.S. Patent No. 6,241,106 in view of Drabert in U.S. Patent No. 3,691,590.

Applicant would like to thank Examiner Newton for the consideration given applicant's attorney at the interview of September 22, 2006. At the interview, agreement was reached to define the present invention by amending the independent claims to include additional features. As agreed at the interview, the crossbars of the racks have been defined to be spaced with a fully open gap and the relationship between the racks and the tire portions is such that the tires extend below and laterally from the crossbars and the tires are prevented from contacting each other by spacing elements or guide brackets. As a result of the claim amendments, it was agreed that

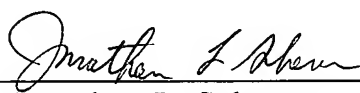
the present invention was distinguished over the patents to Devening and Fujita. The application should be in condition for allowance subject to an updated search.

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims in the present application, as they now stand, patentably distinguish over the references cited and applied by the Examiner and are, therefore, in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is in order, and such favorable action and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

However, if after reviewing the above amendments and remarks, the Examiner has any questions or comments, he is cordially invited to contact the undersigned attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

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